FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

20 NOVEMBER 1986

Iran

President Reagan should mourn the "disgrace" he has suffered over U.S. attempts to establish relations with Iran, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni declared in a 20 November speech broadcast by Tehran radio. Khomeyni said the affair has caused a "big explosion" in the "Black House," and he spoke of "contradictions" and "anxiety" reflected in Reagan's remarks on the issue. However, he expressed concern that there are in Iran "certain individuals" who are providing support for Reagan by criticizing their own officials and seeking to create disunity. Khomeyni mentioned in this regard certain Majlis deputies whose remarks were "harsher" than those of Israel or the "palace-dwellers." He called for an end to such remarks, telling those responsible that they should not "break the heart" of officials and that they should not "set up radicals and reactionaries." In a shorter report on his speech, Tehran radio noted that Khomeyni was addressing a number of Majlis deputies who have "raised certain issues" regarding Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

Earlier, the Soviet ambassador conveyed a written message on issues of mutual concern to Velayati, IRNA reported. In Moscow, a Soviet Foreign Ministry official and the Iranian envoy agreed on a date for Velayati's visit, according to Tehran radio.

Lebanon

Camps War — Beirut radio reported that contacts would continue in Damascus 20 November in an attempt to resolve the Amal-Palestinian fighting in Lebanon, adding that leaders of the Amal Movement, Progressive Socialist Party, and the Palestine National Salvation Front (PNSF) would participate in meetings under the auspices of Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. The radio cited a PNSF spokesman's statement that the PNSF has instructed its men in the camps and the mountain area to exercise self-restraint and avoid exacerbating the situation. PNSF leaders also discussed the camps war during talks in Damascus with visiting Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Sheykholeslam, Tehran radio noted, adding that the latter called for a quick end to the Lebanese-Palestinian clashes. PNSF official Colonel Sa'id Musa endorsed Sheykholeslam's view and also expressed the PNSF's full support for Iran in the war against Iraq, the radio said. Sheykholeslam subsequently arrived in Beirut, according to an Iranian Embassy announcement cited by Beirut radio.

An Amal spokesman stated that 1 person was killed and 18 were wounded in fighting around the Burj al-Barajinah camp 19 November, according to Voice of Lebanon. A PNSF source said eight Palestinians were wounded inside the camp, the radio added. Beirut radio reported a resumption of Amal-palestinian clashes in the Al-Rashidiyah area, near Tyre.

Israeli Activities — The IDF spokesman confirmed that Israel intercepted two Fatah boats off the Lebanese coast over the weekend, according to Jerusalem radio. Three IDF soldiers were wounded by mortar fire in southern Lebanon 19 November, the radio disclosed.

Economic Crisis — A Lebanese Front statement cited by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon urged Prime Minister Rashid Karami to convene a cabinet meeting immediately in order to tackle the current economic collapse in Lebanon. Noting the sharp decline in the value of the Lebanese pound, the statement said Karami bears "full responsibility for the starvation of the people."

Syria

Prime Minister 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm denounced "addicts of futile consumption" in a speech to the trade unions conference reported by Damascus radio, adding that the authorities are taking action against "parasites, monopolists, and tamperers with the people's interests." He claimed that there is a close relationship between "foreign plots" and the activities of a "minority of brokers" who are monopolizing goods and creating economic problems.

Israel

Jerusalem Arrests — Jerusalem police arrested five KAKH members suspected of planning recent riots and disturbances in the city, Jerusalem radio reported, noting that those arrested include "prominent" figures in KAKH.

Vanunu Affair — A spokesman for Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir stated that Israel has nothing more to tell Britain concerning Mordekhay Vanunu's disappearance from London and reappearance in an Israeli jail, *The Jerusalem Post* disclosed 20 November. The spokesman retracted his earlier statement that Israel would be prepared to provide Britain with more information on the matter.

Sudan

Following an "extremely important" meeting with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, Sudanese State Council member Muhammad al-Hasan 'Abdallah Yasin said a "new page" was opened in Egyptian-Sudanese relations and disclosed that Mubarak accepted an invitation to visit Sudan "as soon as possible," MENA reported.

Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi asserted at a press conference reported by MENA that Sudan has stabilized its economic and political situation. Noting the military's success in regaining the

initiative in the south and in reopening and securing airports, roads and waterways, Al-Mahdi expressed optimism that problems in the troubled region can be solved peacefully through negotiations. Meanwhile, a rebel spokesman cited by the clandestine SPLA radio denied that the Khartoum government has recaptured control of rebel-occupied areas.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 224 *20 November 1986*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

AFGHANISTAN

Babrak Karmal Resigns Government Posts ..... C 1
Kabul Reports Further ..... C 1
Riyadh Notes 'Rebels' Executed Officers ..... C 1
Antirebel Operations Reported in Qandahar ..... C 1
Kabul Reports Rebels Crushed in Nangarhar ..... C 2

BANGLADESH

Pope Arrives in Dhaka, Received by Ershad ..... D 1
Speaks on World Problems ..... D 1
Ends Visit; Leaves for Singapore ..... D 1

INDIA

Gandhi Briefs Parliament on SAARC Summit ..... E 1
Sri Lanka's Hameed Visits Delhi From Bangalore ..... E 1
Views Ethnic Issue With Tiwari ..... E 1
China's Upgrading of Highway 'Monitored' ..... E 1
Road To Be Built Along Bangladesh Border ..... E 1
Irrigation Project 'Purely' for Navigability ..... E 1
Postal Bill To Check Terrorism Passed ..... E 1
'Suspected Sikh Militants' Wound Hindu Leader *[AFP]* ..... E 2
'Terrorists' Kill 4 Policemen in Amritsar ..... E 2
Tripura Government Charged With 'Callousness' ..... E 2

IRAN

Khamene'i Speaks to University Students ..... I 1
Tehran Cites ICO Session, Khamene'i Message ..... I 1
Khomeyni Speaks on 'Disgrace' of U.S. Leaders ..... I 1
Hashemi-Rafsanjani on Self-Reliance in War ..... I 3
Reagan's Comments Said 'Conceding Defeat' *[ASAHI]* ..... I 3
Ministry Group Said Urging Relations With U.S. *[Beirut Voice of National Resistance]* ..... I 4
USSR Ambassador Hands Message to Velayati ..... I 4
Envoy to Moscow Meets With USSR's Vorontsov ..... I 4
Paris-Based Opposition Says Mehdi Hashemi Freed *[AFP]* ..... I 4
Khomeyni Pardons 'Nearly 1,000' Prisoners ..... I 4
Signing of Accord With France 'Positive Step' ..... I 4
Cooperation Protocol Signed With Poland ..... I 5
Officials Visit Syria, Lebanon for Unity Week ..... I 5
Embassy in Beirut Calls for Muslim Unity ..... I 6
Conference To Defend Groups Against Iraqi Regime ..... I 6
Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq ..... I 6
Iraqi Planes Bombard Ahvaz ..... I 6
Fighting on Northwestern Front Viewed ..... I 6
Communique No 2,659 ..... I 6
Communique No 2,660 ..... I 7

Babrak Karmal Resigns Government Posts

LD201636 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1530 GMT 20 Nov 86

[Announcement on DRA Revolutionary Council session held in Kabul on 20 November]

[Text] A session of the DRA Revolutionary Council was held today in Kabul City chaired by Comrade Nur Ahmad Nur, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and vice president of the Revolutionary Council.

The DRA Revolutionary Council session considered the letter from Comrade Babrak Karmal about his request to be relieved from the post of president of the DRA Revolutionary Council and chairman of the Presidium. The DRA Revolutionary Council session endorsed the request of Comrade Babrak Karmal and relieved him from the post of president of the DRA Revolutionary Council and chairman of the Presidium.

Comrade Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, spoke at this session of the DRA Revolutionary Council and expressed thanks to Comrade Babrak Karmal for his formidable services in high state positions.

The session of the DRA Revolutionary Council ended its work after playing the DRA national anthem.

Kabul Reports Further

LD201820 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1530 GMT 20 Nov 86

[Excerpts] The following is an announcement about the convocation of 20th plenum of the PDPA Central Committee:

The 20th plenum of the PDPA Central Committee was held today in Kabul. Comrade Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, read the basic statement of the plenum about the implementation of the decisions of the 16th plenum of the PDPA Central Committee and about a number of immediate duties of the party. The speech by Comrade Najib was heard with profound attention and was warmly received by the participants of the plenum. [passage omitted]

The 20th plenum of the PDPA Central Committee then considered organizational issues. The plenum unanimously elected DRA Minister of State Security Comrade Gholam Faruq Yaqubi as member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo, and DRA Minister of Internal Affairs Comrade Sayyed Mohammad Golabzoy and First Secretary of the Democratic Youth Organization of Afghanistan Comrade Farid Ahmad Mazdak as candidate members of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo.

The 20th plenum of the PDPA Central Committee considered the letter of Comrade Babrak Karmal about his relief from party and government posts. The 20th plenum of the PDPA Central Committee unanimously approved the demand of Comrade Babrak Karmal. The text of comrade Babrak Karmal's letter will be broadcast tonight at 2100.

On behalf of all members of the party the plenum expressed gratitude to Comrade Babrak Karmal.

The plenum approved the proposal of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and the DRA Revolutionary Council about the presentation of the Order of the April Revolution to Comrade Babrak Karmal; and also approved the request of the DRA Council of Ministers about fixing and giving him a state pension.

Riyadh Notes 'Rebels' Executed Officers

LD152128 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic
2000 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] A statement issued today in Islamabad said that 10 officers [words indistinct] have been executed after they were sentenced by a court of Afghan rebels.

Rebel sources said that the officers were executed earlier this month in the province of Qandahar in the south-east of Afghanistan.

It is noteworthy that the court, which was formed in the region [word indistinct] which is controlled by the rebels, found the officers guilty after they were captured on 28 October, and after 30 Afghan soldiers joined the rebel forces.

Meanwhile, a Danish surgeon has said that the Soviet forces have used napalm bombs in their fight against the Afghan rebels and that they also intentionally wounded children when they threw explosives resembling toys to them. The surgeon, who returned (?safely) from a visit to Afghanistan, pointed out the Soviet forces used these bombs against civilians and that he saw numerous wounded persons.

Antirebel Operations Reported in Qandahar

LD171802 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Our heroic Armed Forces, with the cooperation of Qandahar's people, inflicted deadly strikes on the hideouts of counterrevolutionaries in the vicinity of that province.

BIA reported that as a result of successful operations carried out in the vicinity of Qandahar Province by the country's heroic Armed Forces to purge that region of these enemies of the homeland, the people and the revolution. A number of these criminals, who had been disturbing the peaceful life of the residents of the remote villages, were crushed and their nests destroyed.

2 recoilless guns, a DShK, a mortar with (?122) shells, a ZK-1, a heavy machine gun, 5 assorted weapons with thousands of shells, and 13 kgs of explosives have been seized by the Armed Forces during these operations.

Also 8 mortars, 15 DShKS, 6 rocket launchers, 3 systems for launching surface-to-surface rockets, 112 antitank mines, and 153 enemy positions have been destroyed.

Kabul Reports Rebels Crushed in Nangarhar

LD181739 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 18 Nov 86

[Text] The heroic Armed Forces of the country with the cooperation of the inhabitants of Mohmand Dara, Nangarhar Province, recently inflicted crushing blows and smashed the satanic nests of a large group of counter-revolutionaries who had nested in Daka region.

BIA reports that the heroic Armed Forces, at the request of and with the cooperation of the inhabitants of Daka, carried out a courageous attack on the satanic hideouts of counterrevolutionary groups who had penetrated the border and disrupted the peaceful life of the inhabitants. A number of these criminal elements were punished for their evil deeds.

The report adds that during these successful operations 21 various weapons with thousands rounds of ammunition, 25 surface-to-surface missiles, 30 rockets, 16 shells for recoilless guns, 25 antivehicle mines and antipersonnel mines were seized by the Armed Forces from these killers.

Moreover, an ammunition depot, four mortars with hundreds of shells, one DShK, a large number of antipersonnel and antivehicle mines, and several strong positions and hideouts of the enemy were destroyed.

The inhabitants of Mohmand Dara expressed delight at this victory of the Armed Forces and they have resolutely decided to cooperate fully with the Armed Forces in guarding the country's borders and crushing the counterrevolutionary bands.

Pope Arrives in Dhaka, Received by Ershad

BK190759 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
0700 GMT 19 Nov 86

[Text] Pope John Paul II was given a warm welcome when he arrived in Dhaka this morning on a 2-day state visit to Bangladesh. A 21-gun salute boomed as a special aircraft Boeing 747 of the Italian airline carrying the pope and the members of his entourage landed at the Zia International Airport. Getting down on the soil of Bangladesh, the pope first kissed the ground.

President Ershad warmly welcomed the pope at the airport. The pope was then conducted to the saluting dias from where he took the salute from an interservices guard of honor. The national anthems of the Vatican City state and Bangladesh were played. The Vatican head of state and supreme patriarch of the Catholic Church also reviewed the guard of honor. Later, the pope was taken to the presentation line where the prime minister, ministers, diplomats, high civil and military officials, the archbishop and the leaders of the Christian community, the religious leaders of other faiths were introduced to him. The airport was tastefully decorated and hundreds of schoolgirls chanted welcome slogan.

In a statement on arrival, Pope John Paul said he has come to Bangladesh as a pilgrim with respect for diverse traditions of the country. The people in Bangladesh are striving to consolidate their national identity and make the country a land in which all citizens irrespective of race and religion feel equally at home. The pope said with satisfaction that many linguistic, cultural, and religious groups live side by side in Bangladesh in peace, harmony, and tolerance. The history of the war of independence in Bangladesh proves all sections of the population can (?faithfully) join in achieving the goals of a just and peaceful society. The pope also spoke highly of the country's rich heritage in art, literature, and music. The pope conveyed his greetings to all the people in Bangladesh.

Welcoming the pope President Ershad said all citizens in Bangladesh irrespective of their religion, race, and place of birth are enjoying equal rights and sharing equal responsibilities in their common efforts to make this country a happy and prosperous one. The president reiterated his country's total commitment to the promotion of peace in the world. In this connection he made mention of the SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] set up for the mutual benefit and peace of the 1 billion people in the region. The world today, he said, cannot be divided into regions of peace and conflict as it cannot be divided into pockets of prosperity and poverty. Describing the importance of interdependence of mankind, the president called for cooperation between the affluent and the less developed countries irrespective of political institutions.

From the airport, the pope along with the president, went to the Ershad stadium in a ceremonial motorcade. At the stadium, the pope presided over a Catholic Christian religious mass prayer. The ceremony was directly relayed by radio and television. The pope leaves for Singapore tomorrow.

Speaks on World Problems

BK200207 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
0110 GMT 20 Nov 86

[Excerpts] President Ershad has reiterated Bangladesh's total commitment to world peace as well as complete and general disarmament. The reaffirmation came after a meeting with Pope John Paul II at Banga Bhavan last evening when the supreme pointiff of the Catholic Church called on him. Bangladesh has continued to make ceaseless efforts for the attainment of these objectives. The president also thanked the pope for his role on North-South dialogue to ensure a balanced world economy. The pope told the president of his conviction that the major problems confronting the world are development, hunger, peace, and disarmament. Nothing is possible without total disarmament. The supreme pointiff also asserted on the imperative need for North-South share of wealth, resources, and technology for creating a better world. [passage omitted]

Ends Visit; Leaves for Singapore

BK200739 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
0700 GMT 20 Nov 86

[Excerpts] Pope John Paul II left Dhaka this morning for Singapore at the end of his state visit to Bangladesh. President Ershad was present at the airport to see off the distinguished guest. The president cordially shook hands with the pope before he embarked the aircraft. Before boarding the plane the supreme pontiff of the Catholic Church was given a guard of honor by a smartly turned out contingent drawn from three services. The pope took the salute and inspected the guard. Cabinet ministers, diplomats, leaders of the Catholic community, and high civil and military officials were present at the airport. [passage omitted]

From Singapore the pope will go to Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, and Seychelles.

Gandhi Briefs Parliament on SAARC Summit

BK191619 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 19 Nov 86

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has said that the second SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] summit held in Banglalore marks an important stage in the evolution of the world's largest and most recent regional association. Making a statement in the Lok Sabha today, the prime minister said the summit reaffirmed our faith in promoting the common good of our people through cooperative solution to shared problems. He said under the pioneering leadership of Bangladesh, SAARC has been nurtured from concept to reality in the 1st crucial year of its existence. Mr Gandhi expressed the hope that during India's chairmanship we shall endeavor to consolidate these gains.

Mr Gandhi declared that the basic thrust of our effort will be to promote people-to-people contacts at all levels to close the gap in our knowledge of each other. He said the Bangalore declaration and other documents adopted at the summit have made an important contribution toward the realization of our common goals.

Answering querries, the prime minister said more progress could be achieved on drug trafficking. But the progress on terrorism could not be so due to the problem of its definition. It is still under consideration and some results will be achieved soon.

The prime minister said bilateral issues and trade are outside the purview of SAARC. Mr Gandhi said the the Bangalore summit, however, provided useful opportunity for an exchange of view with other leaders on bilateral, regional, and international matters.

Sri Lanka's Hameed Visits Delhi From Bangalore

BK190455 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 19 Nov 86

[Text] The Sri Lankan foreign minister, Mr A.C.S. Hameed, arrived in New Delhi last night from Bangalore. He will have further talks with the Indian leaders to resolve the ethnic issue in the island.

Views Ethnic Issue With Tiwari

BK191627 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 19 Nov 86

[Text] Talks on resolving the Sri Lanka ethnic issue continued in New Delhi today between the external affairs minister, Mr N.D. Tiwari, and the island's foreign minister, Mr A.C.S. Hameed. Mr Tiwari was assisted by the minister of state, Mr Natwar Singh; the foreign secretary, Mr Venkateswaran; and India's high commissioner in Colombo, Mr Dixit. Mr Hameed was assisted by his foreign secretary, Mr Jayesinghe. Mr Natwar Singh had a separate meeting with Mr Hameed who is leaving for Colombo tonight.

China's Upgrading of Highway 'Monitored'

BK191621 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 19 Nov 86

[Text] India is of the view that the settlement of borders with China is of paramount importance and the government's policy is to find a peaceful solution. The country has been making continuous efforts to normalize relations with its neighbors and they should reciprocate. The minister of state for external affairs, Mr Eduardo Faleiro, said this in the Lok Sabha today. He was replying to a half-hour discussion on China's upgrading of the Karakoram highway. Dr G.S. Rajhan, Congress-I, who initiated the discussion and other members expressed concern over upgradation of the road which passes through the Pakistan-occupied area of Kashmir and has strategic importance. Members also expressed concern over Chinese intrusion into Arunachal Pradesh.

Sharing the members concern, the minister said that all such developments are being constantly monitored to keep up our defense preparedness. He, however, said that upgradation of the highway is being done only in the Chinese territory and not in Pakistan or Pakistan-occupied areas of Kashmir.

Road To Be Built Along Bangladesh Border

BK191623 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 19 Nov 86

[Text] The center has decided to immediately take up construction of a motorable road all along the India-Bangladesh border. This is to strengthen security arrangements along the international border in pursuant of the Assam accord. The road will greatly facilitate intensive patrolling by the border security force in jeeps to check infiltration and transborder crimes. According to an official press release instructions have been issued to take up survey work on a priority basis.

Irrigation Project 'Purely' for Navigability

BK141353 Delhi General Overseas Service in English
1330 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Text] India has rejected Pakistan's contention that the (Torbal) irrigation project in Jammu and Kashmir is violative of the Indus Water Treaty. The minister for water resources, Mr Shankaranand, told the upper house of Parliament in a written reply that Islamabad has been informed that the project is purely for improving the navigability of the Jhelum River.

Postal Bill To Check Terrorism Passed

BK181641 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 18 Nov 86

[Excerpt] The Lok Sabha today passed the Indian Post Office Bill which empowers the government to intercept certain postal articles considered necessary in public interest. It also provides for measures to check misuse of concessional postal facilities by registered newspapers and abuse of franking machines by mass mailers.

Replying to the debate, the minister of state for communications, Mr Santosh Mohan Dev, assured the house that the government will not misuse the power to intercept the mail. All care will be taken before entering a premise for search or seizure of the mail. The normal working of the political parties will not be interferred with. Government will apply the provision only when a group of people or a party indulges in communal or terrorist activities. [passage omitted]

'Suspected Sikh Militants' Wound Hindu Leader

BK191634 Hong Kong AFP in English 1616 GMT 19 Nov 86

[Text] New Delhi, Nov 19 (AFP) — A prominent Hindu leader has been shot and wounded in an attack by suspected Sikh militants in the Indian capital, police said Wednesday.

Surinder Lodha, 51, who belongs to the Hindu Mahasabha (conference), was reported to be out of danger and fully conscious by hospital authorities Wednesday after the attack by three gunmen at his home in central New Delhi late Tuesday.

The Hindu leader, who suffered wounds in the arm and shoulder, had received threats from Sikh extremists fighting for an independent homeland in the Punjab, he said.

An unspecified number of suspects were said to have been detained for questioning.

'Terrorists' Kill 4 Policemen in Amritsar

BK200331 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 20 Nov 86

[Text] In Punjab, terrorists shot dead four CRPF [Central Reserve Police Force] personnel and injured one at village (Sharon) near Tarn Taran in Amritsar District last night. The victims included one sub inspector and three constables. A police spokesman told our Chandigarh correspondent that the CRPF personnel were on patrol duty when they were attacked. The terrorists managed to escape under cover of darkness. They took away the arms of the patrol party before they escaped.

Tripura Government Charged With 'Callousness'

BK190905 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 19 Nov 86

[Text] The home minister, Mr Buta Singh, has charged the Tripura government with callousness in not dealing with terrorists in the state with a firm hand. Replying to questions in the Lok Sabha today he said the state government is not willing to go all out in tackling the menace posed by the Tripura National Volunteers [TNV] despite the center's willingness to provide support. Several battallions of central forces have been deployed at the request of the state government, but Mr Buta Singh pointed out the state government has refused to take action under the terrorist and disruptive activities prevention act. He said the state government must pick up courage and firmly handle the situation.

The home minister informed the house that the question of TNV persons getting help from across the border was personally discussed by him with President Ershad of Bangladesh. Mr Buta Singh also denied any contact with any separatist element by the center. The MNF [Mizo National Front] has kept up its commitment not to help TNV as agreed to in the Mizo accord.

In a brief intervention, the prime minister said no bilateral issue was discussed at the recent SAARC summit.

Khamene'i Speaks to University Students
LD191957 Tehran IRNA in English 1837 GMT 19 Nov 86

[Text] Tehran, Nov 19, IRNA — In today's tension packed and strive-ridden world the Holy Koran — the revealed word of God — and Nahjul Balagha which contains the wise sermons, letters and sayings of Imam Ali (A.S.) will save the aimlessly wandering and oppressed human being, said President Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Khamene'i here Wednesday.

Khamene'i was addressing the Unity-Week ceremony marking the birth anniversary of prophet Mohammad (SAW) and also Imam Ja'far Sadeq (A.S.), sixth imam of the prophet's household, at Imam Ja'far Sadeq (A.S.) University here.

The president called on the university students to hoist the banner of Islam throughout the world and to explore the various aspects of the life of prophet Mohammad (SAW) and also the Koran and Nahjul Balagha.

Later several students of the university who spoke on the birth anniversary of the prophet in Arabic, English, and French languages. [sentence as received]

Chancellor of Imam Ja'far Sadeq (A.S.) University Ayatollah Mohammad Reza Mahdavi-Khani and the university professors and students attended the ceremony.

Tehran Cites ICO Session, Khamene'i Message
NC200918 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 20 Nov 86

[Report by Tehran radio correspondent in Islamabad — date not given]

[Text] At the afternoon session on the first day of the ICO Committee for Scientific and Technical Cooperation meeting, presided over by Pakistani Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo, a message from President Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i was read out by our Minister for Culture and Higher Education Dr Farhadi. In his message President Khamene'i stressed the need for scientific and technological cooperation among Islamic countries and stated: The West's material progress, which has imposed its influence on the modern world, began with the industrial revolution in Europe, although much earlier, the scholars of the Islamic world had tapped numerous sources of science, philosophy, and learning for humanity, causing the fountains of knowledge to flow.

In another part of his address to the Committee for Scientific and Technical Cooperation among Islamic Countries, the president called for a halt to all kinds of assembly industries and to the infiltration of Western consumer goods that have been going on under the guise of industrial development and technical know-how. He added: It is essential that the expansion and growth of scientific and technical knowledge in member countries be based on the recognition of our real long-term needs in the future and inspired by Islamic thought and a regard for moral values.

Before President Khamene'i's message was read out, Pakistani Prime Minister Junejo affirmed the importance of cooperation among Islamic countries in various fields, including science and technology, and said: The Muslims' past history shows that when the Islamic community takes measures to attain its objectives it is rewarded with stupendous progress.

It may be mentioned that the Islamic countries' delegations participating in the Scientific and Technical Cooperation Committee meetings attended a banquet hosted by the Pakistani president.

Khomeyni Speaks on 'Disgrace' of U.S. Leaders
LD201208 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1043 GMT 20 Nov 86

[Speech by Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeyni to members of the families of martyrs, military officers, mobilization headquarters officials in charge of sending forces to the fronts on the occasion of the prophet's birthday on 20 Novembe in Tehran — recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. I congratulate all deprived Muslim nations, all the world oppressed, and our great nation today, which is one of the greatest Islamic feasts. This great day is the origin of all the blessings in the world and the focal point of the unity of world Muslims. In this short time, I cannot recount all the blessings of this day. I hope that I will have the opportunity to recount the blessings of the birth of that great man later, with the indulgence of the listeners and viewers.

What I would like to say is that we are (?marking) a day when the Iranian people should celebrate for certain reasons. One reason is the victory of the Iranian nation in the world, on the fronts, behind the lines, and in all Islamic and non-Islamic countries. (?Another reason why) I should congratulate everybody today is the great explosion that occurred at the Washington Black House and the big disgrace for rulers of America. If you look you will see how the world press and media have tried to cover up the disgrace that befell the U.S. President. The U.S. President should mourn this disgrace. The White House should be turned into the Black House, although it has always been so. The contradictions by the White House and America's allies show the importance of the issue.

A high-ranking — as they put it — official arrived in Iran illegally, with a forged passport, while Iran was not aware of the situation. As soon as he arrived and it was discovered that he was a U.S. official, Iran put him in detention and kept all his movements under observation. He was not able to meet whoever he wanted to. He claimed: If I had gone to the Soviet Union, the Soviet Leader would have come to see me three times. He was thinking that this is the Soviet Union. This is the country of Islam; neither the Kremlin nor the Black House are worthy of mention here. This is the country of God's messenger. This is the country of Imam Sadiq. Here, our Revolution Guards are respected more than palace-dwellers. Here, our Basijis and nation are respected more than all the palace-dwellers of the

world and all who have false claims, thinking that everybody should await their pleasure.

Those who were saying that they would do such and such things and would break relations with us and other threats, have apparently come back today and presented themselves meekly and humbly at the door of this nation wishing to establish relations. They wish to apologize for their mistake, but our nation rejects them. This is an issue, an issue greater than all your other victories. The fact that the U.S. President, with all his so-called might and seeming greatness, dispatches a high ranking official here to meet our officials and none of them agree to meet him, is a big issue that has caused an explosion around the world, and so it should. This issue has put the White House in mourning, and so it should. The issue is an important one. Right now all big countries are competing to establish relations with Iran. What do we owe this to? To the individuals in Iran? To its huge population? Compared with the rest of the world Iran's population is nothing. We owe it to the faith of our youth. This comes from blessings of the noble prophet of Islam and Imam Sadiq. These blessings have dazzled the world's eyes and have created panic in everyone.

Those who thought they could frighten Iran by shouting were thinking that today is the same as the Qajar era [Iran's 19th century dynasty] or the time of the Pahlavis, when the people were not awake. Today is the time of wakefullness of our people, the time of vigilance and blossoming of faith in this country. Therefore, you see that whichever radio you tune to from any corner of the world, all foreign radios speak about the U.S. affair and its humility vis-a-vis Iran. In Reagan's own remarks, there are so many contradictions and so much anxiety that one cannot believe that a person who is the leader of such a country and who boasts so much could utter so many contradictory statements or could be seized by so much anxiety and fear today. This is an important point. It is not just him: The Kremlin is the same. They also compromise, along with the United States, on Iran.

What is the problem? What has happened to Iran? What has occurred in Iran that if one such event had occurred in the past all the Iranian statesmen of bygone eras would have been pushed aside? During the former kings' era, at the time of Qajar and Pahlavi, if one of them had uttered a negative word about them, they would all have been dismissed. If they were making a single threat, all the past statesmen would give in and lay down their arms. What has happened now that even our Guards Corps' warriors ignore them? They had put the people to sleep. The extensive propaganda of the enemies of Islam had put the people to sleep and had divided them. The cities were divided, various parties had differences among themselves, and all the governments were puppet governments.

Today, however, this is no longer a problem. Today Iran has awakened. Today Islam is promoted in Iran. Today the truth of faith has blossomed in Iran. These are blessings of faith. Do not be negligent on this. This is the blessing of your unity in all matters. Do not be negligent of this unity. Do not be negligent of this divine blessing.

At the same time, while one sees that the Kremlin palace has been shaken, while the Black House has been dressed in black, while they wish to find an explanation for their action and turn this way and that way in order to explain their mistakes, like sending that fellow who was expelled from here in disgrace, there are in Iran certain individuals who are either ignorant of the issues or who are deliberately following in their footsteps, following their propaganda, and engaging in similar propaganda here. In this blessed month I do not wish to be the source of unhappiness over individuals. But I must ask why are we so backward? Why, due to our past customs and due to selfishness, should we act in such a confused manner? [chera inqadar khodemanra bebazim] Why, at a time when the world has been shaken due to Iran's lack of attention toward the White House —the Black House — should we try to find solutions to their problems? Why should we be so stricken by the West and by Satan?

I never expected some of these individuals — of course some of them are not worth mentioning — but I never expected some of those individuals who have a certain service record, to shout against our own officials at a time when they should shout against America. What has happened? What is wrong with you? What have you done? Why should you be so influenced by foreign propaganda or your own selfish ambitions? In such an important matter when all of you should hold one another's hands and tell the world that you are united, why during Unity Week do you seek to create disunity? Why do you wish to create dissension among the leaders of the nation? Why do you wish to create a schism? What has happened to you? Where are you going? Which way are you heading?

I cannot talk to you the way I wish, as I do not want to cause you any harm on the day of the feast; but be fair and see if at such a time you should engage in such affairs. Is this the time to provide such support for Reagan? Your tone in the remarks you made in the Majlis was harsher than the Israeli tone, was even harsher than the tone of those palace-dwellers. Why is it that you have become this way? Some of you were not like this. I know some of you. You were not like this. I hope that you will again pay attention to the issues, to events, and to yourselves. I hope you willbe mindful of your own strength and not seek to destroy it, although you will not be able to destroy this strength. But such things should not happen in Iran. I do not wish to break your heart, but you should not break the heart of the nation either. You should not break the heart of the officials. You should not set up radicals and reactionaries. You should not create a schism. This is contrary to Islam. It is contrary to faith and contrary to fairness. Do not do such things.

I hope Almighty God will bestow the health and well-being of our nation, that He will bestow awareness on our friends, that He will guide those who wish to create disunity, and that God, the almighty, the all-blessed, will get rid of the evil of wrongdoers from this country. I hope that He will make this blessed day more blessed to all. I hope that God will enable our fighters wherever they are to advance with a strong heart. The fighters should know that they are victorious and that the victory achieved recently is greater than all victories in the eyes of the world. They should pay attention and advance with God's favor and should advance with God's favor and deliver the final blow. God's peace and blessings be upon you.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani on Self-Reliance in War

LD171152 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] The Central News Unit reports: Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council, this morning paid a visit to an arms-manufacturing plant affiliated with the Ministry of Heavy Industries. The minister of heavy industries was also in attendance. During the inspection, the plant's industrial activities, the designing and manufacturing stages of 60, 81, and 120 mm mortar shells were explained. The objective is to help to make the country's defensive power self-reliant.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani also inspected other parts of the plant, including the laboratory and prototype and moulding units which are involved in designing mortar shells. Hashemi-Rafsanjani also commended the experts.

After the inspection, the imam's representative attended a gathering of the plant's workers and, having commended their efforts in helping the country's projects and defending the revolution and the Islamic homeland, said: You are working to provide the requirements of the war, the most important issue for the country and the region. What you are doing, as well as what your colleagues are involved in, is considered to be total support for Islamic combatants.

Alluding to the capabilities of the Muslim Iranian nation, the Majlis speaker said: These very same people are the ones who are providing the necessary energy for the movement of the revolution; they are the ones who are accomplishing extraordinary tasks. Over the recent years, we have noticed effective strides taken to increase our fighting capabilities. This, paradoxically, is the outcome of our enemies' plots, because earlier we purchased our requirements at a high price, because we happened to have the necessary foreign currency available. Similarly, we also had to face the difficulties involved in such matters — innumerable difficulties. Now, however, we realize that if we had made use of these capabilities in the early days of the war, making use of them in the service of the war, then, considering our industrial power, we could have achieved these useful ends sooner. Once we enter the arena, then society will become self-reliant.

The speaker then added: The preparation of the forces, particularly the equipping of the new 500 battalions, was not an easy task. This was made possible by making use of our domestic capabilities. As soon as our foes realized that we intend to win this war by relying on ourselves, the traces of defeat appeared on their faces. A case in point is the new approach made by the Americans.

These, who up to a year ago, intended to bring us to our knees so harshly, have now changed their tactics. Needless to say, they are not our friends, rather, seeing the source of our power, decision, and independence, they now wish to open a new window. Hashemi-Rafsanjani then stressed: At any rate, the outcome of your efforts is nothing but victory, one of which will be a military victory.

Reagan's Comments Said 'Conceding Defeat'

LD191100 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
2330 GMT 19 Nov 86

[Text] Following 2 weeks of silence in Japan concerning the remarks made by Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani, who claimed that the Japanese prime minister had asked Iran to cooperate for therelease of hostages in Lebanon, the Japanese high circulation daily *Asahi* last Saturday [15 November] revealed that Yasuhiro Nakasone, by dispatching two special envoys to Tehran, has joined the action to release the American hostages in Lebanon. *Asahi* wrote: Each of the envoys is carrying a private letter from Yasuhiro Nakasone to Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani; however, Iran has rejected Japan's requests saying that the problem of the hostages stems mainly from U.S. deeds in the Middle East.

On the other hand, the Western mass media, quoting U.S. and European authorities and analyzing remarks made by Reagan last week, are concertedly trying to somehow cover up America's defeat in its struggle to restore relations with Iran amid the intense news bombardment about U.S. arms deliveries to Iran. None of the news and commentaries mention anything about the fact that the United States, after 8 years of conspiracy to overthrow the Islamic Republic, has now concluded that the Islamic Republic of Iran is invincible. None of the commentators and analysts is saying that the exposure of McFarlane's trip is a political disgrace for the U.S. ruling clique and a sign of the firm resolve of a great nation — that is, the nation of Iran.

In his recent speech, Reagan openly confessed that the Iranian revolution is a historical fact. This means conceding defeat for all the U.S. activities during the past 8 years that tried to overthrow the revolution. In his speech, Reagan added: Iran has concentrated its policy on negating all Western influence in the Middle East, and we cannot afford to ignore this fact.

The essence of the U.S. leader's confessions lies in the fact that a superpower secretly dispatched its envoy to the capital of the most anti-American revolution in the world and pleaded for restoration of links; this can mean nothing else but conceding defeat and admitting the might of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In another part of his speech, Reagan confesses: Because of Iran's strategic importance and its influence in the Islamic world we are striving to establish relations with it. He adds: Without Iran's cooperation, we would not be capable of ending the Persian Gulf war.

This confession also demonstrates that the U.S. ruling circle has come to the conclusion that 6 years of Western political andmilitary propaganda and economic support for the Iraqi regime have failed to have the slightest effect on the war trend and, on the contrary, have made the nation of Iran more determined to crush the aggressor.

The people of the world realize today that the imminent victory of the forces of Islam in the war against the Ba'thist-Zionist enemy will be the biggest defeat for the United States in the region. It is for this reason that U.S. statesmen and circles affiliated with Zionism and imperialism, using all their options,

are now trying to neutralize positive results of this victory among the Muslim nation of the region. They want to pretend that it was perhaps their so-called U.S. weapons that changed the course of the war. Whereas the Muslim nations of the region and the world, during the past 6 years of the war imposed on the Islamic Revolution, have realized that it was the faith and firm resolve of the Iranian nation that managed to impose determination of a nation upon the views and decisions of major powers. Had weapons been the winning factor of this battle then the Iraqi regime, which has received a flood of weapons from the East and West and has employed all types of them against the nation of Iran and the combatants of Islam, should have at least managed to move one step forward on the front to serve the interests of global arrogance, instead of reaching such an impasse.

Anyway, by reading between the lines of the Western propaganda bombardment, one can understand that a risen nation has managed to break the imposing presence of a superpower and has made it accept realities and come to terms with our strategic and destiny-making position. The justice-seeking nations of the world have well understood this fact.

Ministry Group Said Urging Relations With U.S.

NC200717 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 0600 GMT 20 Nov 86

[Text] The Iranian newspaper *Keyhan* has cited an Iranian student leader as saying yesterday that a group of Foreign Ministry officials are publicly calling for the establishment of relations with the United States. A representative of the Islamic Society of Tehran University Students has said that the Foreign Ministry and the policy makers in Iran have divergent views on the issue of relations with the United States and the West.

USSR Ambassador Hands Message to Velayati

LD191553 Tehran IRNA in English 1535 GMT 19 Nov 86

[Text] Tehran, Nov 19, IRNA — Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati received a written message from the Soviet Government dealing with the latest developments in the region as well as issues of mutual concern.

The message was handed over to Velayati by Soviet Ambassador to Iran Vil Boldyrev, here Wednesday.

Envoy to Moscow Meets With USSR's Vorontsov

LD191104 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Nov 86

[Text] Yesterday the ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Moscow met with USSR Deputy Foreign Minister Vorontsov and had discussions with him concerning bilateral relations and regional issues. In this meeting Mr Vorontsov once again reiterated the invitation of Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze to our Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati to visit the Soviet Union. While exchanging opinions about the Joint Economic Commission the two sides also reached agreement about the date of Mr Velayati's visit. [no date given].

Paris-Based Opposition Says Mehdi Hashemi Freed

AU191352 Paris AFP in English 1338 GMT 19 Nov 86

[Text] Paris, Nov 19 (AFP) — Mehdi Hashemi, a senior Iranian official who was arrested last month amid reports of a crackdown on hardliners in Tehran, has been freed on bail and placed under house arrest, informed sources in the Paris-based Iranian opposition said Wednesday.

Mr Hashemi, head of Iran's aid office for Islamic liberation movements, is a close associate of Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri, the designated successor to spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni.

In charge of distributing financial and military assistance to Moslem fundamentalist groups in Lebanon, Mr Hashemi was seen as one of the chief opponents to any contacts with the West, especially the United States. He is accused of involvement in "murders before and after the revolution," abductions, illegal possession of arms and false documents, according to the minister of intelligence, Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammadi Reyshahri, in charge of the inquiry. The opposition sources said Mr Hashemi is also the suspected force behind the abduction and brief detention last month of the Syrian charge d'affaires in Tehran, Iyad Mahmud.

The arrest coincided with the covert U.S. diplomatic overture towards Iran and, the opposition said, the arrest of hundreds of Iranian radicals, including officers in the Revolutionary Guard.

Khomeyni Pardons 'Nearly 1,000' Prisoners

LD191721 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Nov 86

[Text] It was announced at today's session of the Supreme Judicial Council that on the occasion of the auspicious anniversary of the birth of His Holiness Mohammad — God's benediction and salutations be upon him and his scion — and the blessed birthday of His Holiness Imam Ja'far al-Sadiq — peace be upon him — nearly 1,000 ordinary prisoners have been pardoned by the imam of the nation. The order to release them has been issued.

The session also appointed two judges of the supreme court in the city of Qom, and notification to that effect has been issued. The council also approved the commission of employment and transfer decisions regarding the appointment and assignment of a number of law school graduates and law volunteers from the seminary, as well as a number of transfers of judges.

Signing of Accord With France 'Positive Step'

LD191716 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Nov 86

[Text] A spokesman of our country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs has announced:

With the signing of the memorandum of understanding on resolving the Iranian-French financial dispute by the two coun-

tries' ministers of foreign affairs, the first practical step has been taken toward the final solution of the bilateral financial differences.

He added: During several rounds of talks and discussions between Iranian and French experts in the two countries' capitals on Iran's 1974 loan to the French nuclear energy commissariat, and during two rounds of talks in New York between Foreign Minister Velayati and French Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond, agreement was reached in principle on signing this memorandum of understanding. It was signed first by the French minister of foreign affairs and then by the Iranian foreign minister, whereupon a positive step was taken toward a complete solution of the two countries' financial differences, one of Iran's conditions for normalizing relations with France.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesman added: In accordance with the signed memorandum of understnading, the French Government has undertaken the repayment of $330 million as part of its debts to Iran.

Following this phase the meetings between the two countries' experts in connection with the remainder of France's debts to Iran will be resumed in order to finalize the solution of bilateral financial differences.

Cooperation Protocol Signed With Poland

NC1809?8 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 18 Nov 86

[Text] Polish Minister of Foreign Trade Andrzej Wojcik, who has been visiting our country at the head of a delegation, left Tehran last night after a 3-day stay during which a joint protocol between Iran and Poland was signed. Wojcik was in Tehran to participate in discussions on mutual cooperation between the two countries. He was seen off by our country's commerce minister.

In an interview prior to his departure, the Polish minister said that following this visit Poland's purchases from Iran will become more diverse. Poland will buy larger quantities of nonoil commodities such as fresh and dried fruit, (?seeds), and surplus industrial goods from Iran. He expressed the hope that the significant results of the visit will be reviewed when Iran's commerce minister visits Poland. On that occasion, further arrangements will be made in this regard.

Our country's Commerce Minister Ja'fari described the visit of this delegation as successful. He spoke to our correspondent on the protocol signed by Iran and Poland and on the prospects for bilateral trade, as follows:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] Mr Ja'fari, a protocol was signed on the eve of Mr Andrzej Wojcik's departure for his country. Could you please tell us what this document pertains to and give us your overall assessment of the scope for bilateral trade?

[Ja'fari] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate, greetings on Unity Week to the imam of the nation and to the martyr-nurturing nation. By the grace of God, on the conclusion of the talks that took place during the 3-day visit of the Polish foreign trade minister to the Islamic Republic of Iran, we signed a protocol. The protocol concerns two particular fields: commercial issues, and economic, technical, and educational cooperation. As regards the commercial issues, the export of oil to Poland was discussed and a compromise was reached. Similarly, our nonoil exports to Poland will include agricultural products such as dried fruit. Mineral products, ores, and other industrial products will also be exported to Poland. As for imports, we came to an agreement on various commodities which are usually produced in Poland, including metal tools, paper, parts and equipment for mines and industries, trawler and cargo vessel cold storage equipment for frozen meat and fish products, implements, cooling towers, and [word indistinct].

Certain vistas were explored with respect to economic and technical cooperation which went beyond the Polish minister's expectations and were entirely new. The subject of the transfer of technology and some projects that respond to our country's needs was also discussed. The Polish delegation agreed that detailed recommendations would be made in the case of four projects — for the production of textile dyes, graphic electrodes, asbestos pipes and ceilings, and rotating drills for digging — on the basis of the schedule prepared and included in the protocol. Other undertakings that had been decided on earlier, involving the kind of technology we require but for which we have hitherto not drawn on the resources of Poland, were also incorporated, such as metalworking, foundry, and machine projects. The Polish delegation also proffered suggestions on projects for the production of machine tools, accelerator parts, cooling systems, (?precision) industries, paper-making factories, mining, turbine and boiler manufacture, cooling towers for power stations, and cottage industries in rural districts. In the course of the discussions, the Iranian delegation also made suggestions which, it was decided, will be assessed in detail prior to the next session to be held in Warsaw in less than a year's time.

The volume of bilateral trade before the Islamic Revolution averaged (?about) $40 million. Since the revolution it has risen to over $60 million. A target of $100 million on each side has now been set, and the ceiling on technical expenditure, which was formerly $8 million, also shows a marked rise to the considerably higher level of $25 million.

[Correspondent] Thank you. [end recording]

Officials Visit Syria, Lebanon for Unity Week

LD161801 Tehran IRNA in English 1735 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] Tehran, Nov 16, IRNA — An Iranian delegation headed by supervisor of Islamic Propagation Organization (IPO) Ayatollah Ahmad Jannati left here Sunday for Syria and Lebanon. Ayatollah Jannati is accompanied by Deputy Foreign Minister for Political Affairs Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam as well as some other officials of the ministry.

The delegation left (?for these countries) on the occasion of Unity Week and will seek to promote solidarity among Lebanese Muslims.

Embassy in Beirut Calls for Muslim Unity

LD171831 Tehran IRNA in English 1740 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Beirut, Nov 17, IRNA — Iran's Embassy in Beirut issued a statement here Monday congratulating the Muslim nation and other oppressed nations on the birth anniversary of Prophet Mohammad (SAW).

The statement released on the occasion of Unity Week (Nov 15-20), said that [words indistinct] Muslim countries vis-a-vis the Qods [Jerusalem] occupying regime were solely because of disunity among the Muslims. Unity is the only way for successfully confronting the Zionists who have usurped Islamic lands, added the statement.

Meanwhile a Lebanese theologian Sheykh Hasan Tarrad in a talk with IRNA on the occasion, stressed on the need for solidarity among Muslims, especially in Lebanon, in order to thwart the aggression of the Zionist state which he termed a "historical enemy of Muslims".

Leader of the Lebanese Islamic Tawhid Movement Sheykh Sa'id Sha'ban who was also interviewed by IRNA said that Muslims should follow divine orders and fight against the Zionists whom he described as the "arch-enemy of Muslims". He added that the carrying out of these tasks was essential if Muslims are to attain unity.

Conference To Defend Groups Against Iraqi Regime

LD191222 Tehran IRNA in English 1243 GMT 19 Nov 86

[Text] Tehran, Nov 18, IRNA — The Islamic Republic of Iran will support all Iraqi groups and organizations who are fighting the Ba'thist Iraqi regime to defend the interests of the Iraqi people, said Hojjat ol-Eslam Ahmad Salek, in charge of the headquarters to hold the conference on assistance to the Iraqi nation, Tuesday.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Salek said that the conference will be held from December 22 to 30 and all religious and non-religious Iraqi personalities, groups, and organizations are invited to take part to exchange views and further harmonise struggles against the Iraqi regime.

Speaking at a press conference, Hojjat ol-Eslam Salek said that Syria and Libya will also set forth their viewpoints. He added that delegations from the two countries will attend the conference to express views of their countries.

He said that at present, the world has realised the role of Iraqi nation in the continuation of the imposed war until the downfall of Saddam as a major factor for determining Iraq's destiny.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Salek stressed that the Iraqi people including the opposition have intensified campaign against Saddam's regime.

He said that numerous Iraqi opposition groups have called for help from Iran for continuation and coordination of their campaigns adding that the conference will play an effective role in harmonising these groups for the liberation of their Islamic homeland.

The conference, he said, will discuss political, economic, social and cultural conditions of Iraq at present and after the downfall of Iraqi regime. It will also review crime records and cases of breaching of international laws by Saddam's regime, said Hojjat ol-Eslam Salek.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Iraqi Planes Bombard Ahvaz

LD201210 Tehran IRNA in English 1208 GMT 20 Nov 86

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., Nov 20, IRNA — Intruding Iraqi planes heavily bombarded civilian areas here Thursday, inflicting some casualties and damage.

Details were not immediately available.

Fighting on Northwestern Front Viewed

NC200658 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 20 Nov 86

[Excerpts] According to the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Islamic combatants on the northwestern fronts fired on Zionist enemy positions and fortifications, set some defensive positions of the Saddamists ablaze, and killed Iraqi soldiers. One of our combatants' patrol units, on a special mission, clashed with a patrol unit of the aggressor enemy, destroyed the Iraqi patrol, killed some of its members, and seized light weapons and an artillery piece. [passage omitted]

The Islamic combatants fired on a Saddamist tank unit in Yabis, Chazzabeh, and south Jofeyr, destroying or incapacitating some of the tanks and killing or wounding Iraqis. The Gendarmerie combatants, in a defensive operation, destroyed the Saddamists' positions and defense lines, as well as three heavy vehicles, killing the occupants. [passage omitted]

Communique No 2,659

LD181651 Tehran IRNA in English 1630 GMT 18 Nov 86

[Text] Tehran, Nov 18, IRNA — Iran's Navy intercepted and inspected two oil tankers sailing under foreign flags in the Strait of Hormuz Monday but allowed them to continue voyage after being satisfied they were not carrying any war-related cargo for Iraq, said a military communique here Tuesday.

Joint Staff Communique Number 2,659 said that heavy Iranian long range artillery fire continued to pound Iraq's industrial and military centers in the southern and western fronts Monday inflicting considerable damage on them.

Iraqi forces incurred substantial casualties and losses in artillery duels with Iranian forces in the southern fronts especially in

Talaiyeh and Zayd operational theaters Monday, said the communique.

The military communique furthermore said that exchange of artillery fire continued in the western fronts Monday raging somewhat more heavily in Sumar and Naft-e Shah.

Iranian Gendarmerie forces reconnoitered and shelled Iraqi positions in parts of the western and southern fronts Monday destroying several enemy gun emplacements and disrupting enemy engineering operations, according to the communique.

In the northwestern fronts, the communique said, Iranian forces opened fire on Iraqi positions and supply routes Monday killing a number of enemy soldiers and inflicting heavy losses on them.

Iraqi military operations and fortification of positions as well as reconnaissance flights of enemy helicopters were checked in Nahr 'Anbar, Basra, Yabis, and Eyn-Khowsh (southern fronts) by Iranian artillery fire Monday.

Communique No 2,660

LD191654 Tehran IRNA in English 1610 GMT 19 Nov 86

[Text] Tehran, Nov 19, IRNA — Iran's Navy intercepted and inspected three foreign cargo ships and oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz on Tuesday but allowed them to continue voyage after determining that no war-related cargo was bound for Iraq, said a military communique here Wednesday.

Joint Staff Communique Number 2,660 said that Iranian long range heavy artillery fire pounded Iraq's military centers and industrial sites in the southern and western fronts on Tuesday inflicting substantial damage.

Three Iraqi vehicles were destroyed and all enemy soldiers aboard them killed in parts of the southern fronts when they were shelled by Iranian Gendarmerie Forces on Tuesday, the communique said.

In the northwestern fronts, the communique continued, several Iraqi soldiers were killed and parts of enemy positions set afire in artillery duels with Iranian forces on Tuesday. Iraqi patrols were repulsed with heavy casualties and several weapons seized in a clash [words indistinct] killed or wounded and [word indistinct] by Iranian artillery fire, and western Jofeyr operational theaters in the southern fronts. Enemy fire was also silenced, according to the communique.

Iranian Muslim combatants reconnoitered and shelled Iraqi positions in the western fronts on Tuesday killing a number of enemy soldiers and destroying one artillery piece. Several enemy gun emplacements were also set ablaze and demolished.